Department of State

P790145-0685

UNCLAS TAIPEI 01345

E.O. 12065: N/A

SAGC M Su, Ty, SS

SUBJECT: [illegible] PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM "PIP" PROGRAM

1. SINCE LATE JAN 79 THERE HAS BEEN A LOT OF IN THE FLOW OF INFORMATION RELATIVE TO THE [illegible] WHICH HAS RESULTED IN CONFUSION. THE [illegible] PROJECT OFFICE OF THE U.S. ARMY MISSILE COMMAND (MICOM) HAS RELEASED A REVISED PIP SCHEDULE TO REFLECT [illegible] AND A NEW [illegible] SCHEDULE REFLECTS A REVISED PERIOD RELATIVE TO RF RADAR PROCURE BY MOD OFFICE 1979-83. FIRE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS AND THE TRC-145 TACTICAL RADIO COMMUNICATIONS AND THE TECHNICAL FEASIBILITY OF INTERFACING THE TCU-73 WITH CURRENTLY DEPLOYED FIRE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS. [illegible] ASSESSMENT TEAM VISITED TAIWAN 1-28 JAN 79 TO REVIEW EXISTING FIRE DISTRIBUTION AND COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS AND OPERATIONAL AND LOGISTICAL PROCEDURES. THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF THESE REPORT ARE TO SERVE AS A BASIS FOR GOVT DECISIONS CONCERNING COURSES OF ACTION TO BE PURSUED. REGARDS OF THE TEAM DID IT HAVE FOR EACH PROVIDED ACTOR A FULL OR PERTINENT CONCLUSION OF THE [illegible] REPORT WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL TO THE GOVT IN ITS [illegible] DIFFICULT AND COSTLY DECISIONS.

2. IN ATTEMPTS TO PICK UP THE PIECES WE HAVE PERCEIVED THIS PROGRAM. IN OUR VIEW THERE ARE FOUR INTERRELATED ELEMENTS IN THIS ISSUE WHICH MUST BE RESOLVED OR THE PIP [illegible] PROGRAM FOR TAIWAN IS NOT VIABLE.

-- A. APPROVAL TO BUY THE BLOCK I MODIFICATION KIT THROUGH FMS OR A DIRECT COMMERCIAL CONTRACT MUST BE OBTAINED AND A LOA OR CONTRACT SIGNED BY 1 NOV 79. IT DOES NOT APPEAR THAT THIS SALE WOULD VIOLATE THE PRESIDENT'S POLICY ON ARMS SALES TO GOVT.

-- B. APPROVAL TO PURCHASE TCU-73, WITH EXISTING ARMY TACTICAL DATA LINK, OR ACCEPTABLE SUBSTITUTE THROUGH FMS OR DIRECT COMMERCIAL CONTRACT IS REQUIRED. IN EITHER CASE THIS EQUIPMENT MUST INTERFACE WITH EXISTING FIRE DIRECTION SYSTEMS.

-- C. APPROVAL TO PURCHASE TRC-145 TACTICAL RADIO OR ACCEPTABLE MORE MODERN SUBSTITUTE TO PROVIDE MOBILE AND COMPATIBLE COMMUNICATIONS IS REQUIRED.

-- D. LOGISTICAL SUPPORT AND TECHNICAL TRAINING FOR INSTALLATION, OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE REQUIRED IF ISSUES ABOVE ARE RESOLVED. GOVT IS PREPARED TO OBTAIN TRAINING FROM COMMERCIAL SOURCES IF REQUIRED.

3. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE HAWK SYSTEMS TO BE DELIVERED UNDER CASE YPO WILL BE OF THE PIP CONFIGURATION. THE COMBINATION OF DIFFERENTLY CONFIGURED SYSTEMS WILL PROVIDE AN UNSUPPORTABLE SYSTEMS MIX, AIR DEFENSE CAPABILITIES WILL BE FURTHER DEGRADED WHEN U.S.A. LOGISTICAL SUPPORT FOR SYSTEMS NOT MODIFIED IS DISCONTINUED.

4. WE BELIEVE THAT THE GOVT NEEDS AFFIRMATIVE ANSWERS TO PARA 2.A. THRU C. ABOVE BEFORE THEY CAN COMMIT POLICY TO THE

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